

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the specification are made to insert a priority claim and sequence identifiers, as well as to comport the description of the figures to the formal drawings.

The claims have been amended to eliminate improper multiple dependencies. Additionally, claims 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 12 and 13 now recite that the molecule is "isolated." Claims 2, 5 and 12 have been rewritten in independent format to include recitations from claims from which they originally depended. Claim 6 has been amended to recite an "immunogenic" fragment of at least "10 consecutive amino acids" of the reference sequence. Finally, claims 1 and 15-17 have been cancelled.

Support for the foregoing amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example, on page 3, lines 20-27; page 50, lines 10-12; page 69, lines 49-50; and Example 1.

The above amendments are made without prejudice and without intent to abandon any originally claimed subject matter. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications hereof containing the canceled or unamended claims.

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

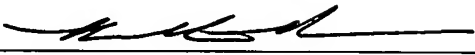
Atty Dkt No. 2300-0363.01
PP00363.115
PATENT

Please all further written communications in this application to:

Alisa A. Harbin, Esq.
Chiron Corporation
Intellectual Property - R440
P.O. Box 8097
Emeryville, CA 94662-8097

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/28/03

By: 
Roberta L. Robins
Registration No. 33,208

Customer No. 27476
CHIRON CORPORATION
Intellectual Property - R440
P.O. Box 8097
Emeryville, CA 94662-8097
Telephone: (650) 493-3400
Facsimile: (650) 493-3440